

Read what the main measuring devices are and what they are used for:

Ammeter	An instrument for measuring an electric current in amperes.
Clamp meter	An instrument with two jaws which open to clamp around an electrical conductor to measure its properties without physical contact.
Oscilloscope	An instrument that shows the change of an electrical signal during a certain time on the screen of a cathode-ray tube.
Thermographic camera	An infrared camera.
Wattmeter	A meter for measuring electric power in watts.
Multimeter	An instrument that combines several measurement functions in one unit: usually voltage, current and resistance.
Non-contact voltage detector	Amplified electronic testers for detecting the changing electric field around ac energized objects.
Voltmeter	An instrument for measuring potential difference.

REMEMBER THAT

Apart from good tools, electricians also need personal protective gear:

- Gloves (rubber insulating)
- Rubber soled shoes
- Hardhat or helmet
- Safety glasses with a side shield



4. Match the tools to their uses. Then write sentences.

screwdriver

torpedo level

pliers

wire strippers

fish tape

voltage detector

power drill

tape measure

is/are used for

...bending, twisting, cutting and pulling wires.

...getting the plastic coating off wires.

...turning screws.

...measuring heights for switches and outlets.

...checking if there is voltage or current flow.

...routing new wiring through walls and conduits.

...indicating if an object is level.

...drilling into all kinds of materials.

a) A screwdriver is used for turning screws.

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

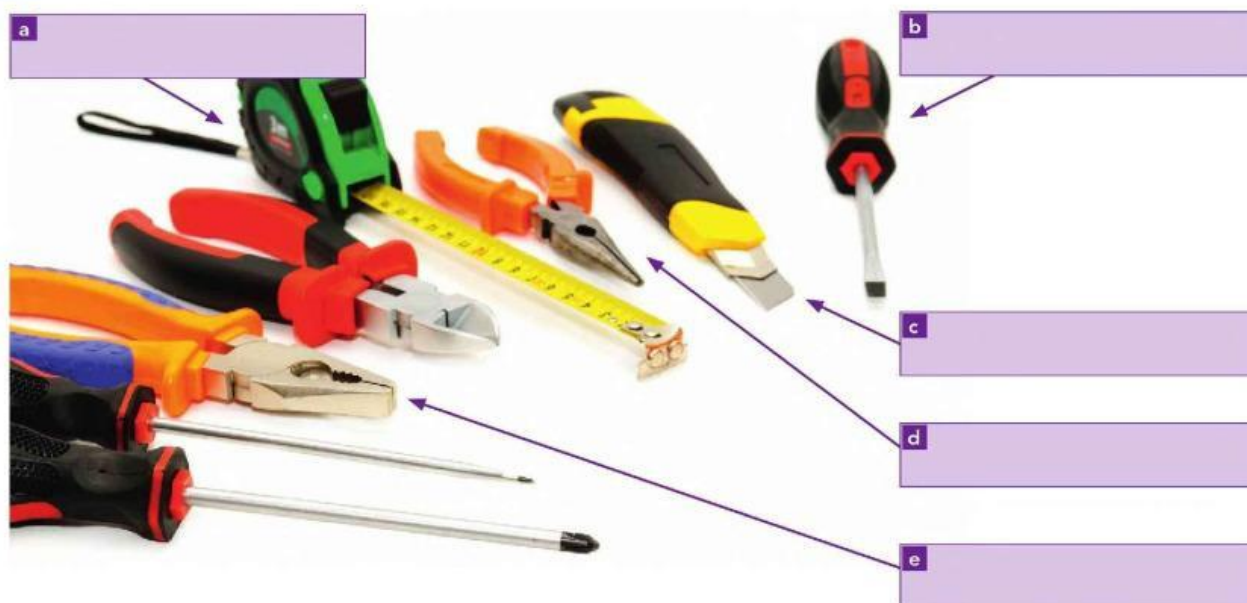
g) _____

h) _____

5. Complete the sentences with the right words. The first letter is given.

- Electricians use **t**esting or diagnostic tools to make sure they correctly identify what the problem with an appliance is.
- You need a **s**_____ to fasten screws.
- A **m**_____ tests electrical circuits.
- To peel cables you need a **w**_____ **s**_____.
- With **f**_____ **t**_____ you can route new wiring through walls.
- There are several kinds of **p**_____. Needle nose and crimping are the most useful for me.
- A spanner is called **w**_____ in American English.
- I need a **m**_____ **t**_____ to measure this wall.

6. Can you label these tools?



VOCABULARY TIP

BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

As you can see, sometimes vocabulary about tools is **different** in British and American English. For example, a **spanner** in British English is a **wrench** in American English.

British English	American English
spanner	wrench
adjustable spanner	crescent/monkey wrench
overalls	coveralls

Let's Switch On!